

Colorado Leads Inbound Migration to Boulder County — ALEX Intelligence 2026

Colorado Drives 65.6% of Boulder's New Movers

Local migration dominance reshapes market dynamics — ALEX Intelligence
2026

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THE DATA

65.6%

Share of Arriving Households From One State (2023)

Colorado supplies more inbound migration to Boulder County than any other state.

This figure reflects a deep-rooted regional mobility pattern, not just transient relocation. The dominance of in-state migration suggests that Boulder's appeal is increasingly self-reinforcing, with residents from across Colorado choosing to settle here rather than move from distant states. This internal flow reduces reliance on external market shocks and bolsters long-term stability.

Source: U.S. Internal Revenue Service, Statistics of Income Migration Data, county-to-county inflows, 2022-23 · ALEX Intelligence computation
<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-09-17-boulder-mig-state-leader>

01

Migration Self-Sufficiency Is a Market Moat

This structural advantage insulates Boulder from the boom-bust cycles seen in other high-demand areas. It also supports sustained investment in local infrastructure, schools, and services — all of which reinforce the county's attractiveness, creating a positive feedback loop.

02

In-State Migration Fuels Affordability Paradox

The result is a market that is both self-sustaining and increasingly exclusionary — where local mobility becomes a driver of inequality. This dynamic challenges traditional notions of ‘local’ as synonymous with ‘affordable’ and highlights a deeper structural shift in Colorado’s housing landscape.

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